

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
Investigative Activity Report**

**Case Number:**

1000-0494

**Case Title:**

Cooke Aquaculture Fish Farm Release

**Reporting Office:**

Seattle, WA, Area Office

**Subject of Report:**

2017-11-21 Emails from Dennis Clark, Washington State Department of Revenue.

**Activity Date:**

November 21, 2017

**Reporting Official and Date:**

[REDACTED]

Agent

11-DEC-2017, Signed by: [REDACTED]

**Approving Official and Date:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

12-DEC-2017, Approved by: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**SYNOPSIS**

On November 20, 2017, I met with several different agencies and tribes at the Culbertson's property in Anacortes, Washington to review Cooke Aquaculture net pen #2 structure.

**DETAILS**

On November 20, 2017, I met with several different agencies and tribes at the Culbertson's property in Anacortes, Washington to review Cooke Aquaculture net pen #2 structure. During the review, I was informed by Washington State Department of Revenue Assistant Division Manager Dennis Clark of another recent incident involving a Cooke Aquaculture net pen.

According to Clark, in May of 2017, a Cooke Aquaculture net pen, located in Clam Bay, Washington, broke loose from its moorings. This incident was not reported to the responsible State of Washington agencies by Cooke Aquaculture. I requested that Clark forward to me any information he has on this incident.

On November 21, 2017, Clark forwarded me several emails detailing the alleged incident of May 2017. Contained within the emails was the correspondence with [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] explained in [REDACTED] email that on May 25, 2017, [REDACTED] witnessed a "separation" of two of the net pens which are located within [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] believes that "emergency" equipment was brought in at night and a vessel held the pens in place while repairs were made. [REDACTED] does not believe any fish escaped during the incident.

In a subsequent email, date October 19, 2017, [REDACTED] further explains that during the May 2017 incident, a large amount of equipment was delivered near [REDACTED] which caused traffic issues. During [REDACTED] discussion with the person directing traffic near [REDACTED], [REDACTED] was informed that "they had some equipment failure that necessitated the unusual hour for delivery."

**ATTACHMENT**

2017-11-21 Clark to [REDACTED] Email - 20-B10237 Cooke Aquaculture at Rich Passage\_ May 2017 Incident.pdf

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2017-08-29 [REDACTED] RE\_ Equipment Failure Cooke Aquaculture Bainbridge.pdf  
2017-10-19 [REDACTED] - Equipment failure May 25th Cooke Aquaculture Bainbridge Island.pdf

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